

Attorney Docket No.: GK56
Serial No.: 10/798,917
Examiner: Hai Vo

Second Proposed Claim Amendment

1. (currently amended) A gasket comprising
at least two laminate tapes each comprising a plurality of porous
expanded polytetrafluoroethylene (ePTFE) layers, the tapes comprising a length,
upper and lower laminate layers, and side surfaces extending between upper
and lower laminate layers, and
at least one substantially air impermeable layer
wherein the at least two tapes are aligned side-by-side along side
surfaces for the length of the tape, and joined by the at least one substantially air
impermeable layer ~~extending the length of the tapes and~~ positioned between two
tape side surfaces for the length of the tapes.

Explanation of Proposed Amendment

Support for the phrase 'side-by-side' may be found, for example, at page 14, line 6, of the instant application. The inclusion of the phrase 'side-by-side' should clarify any potential confusion regarding the arrangement of the tapes in the gasket. However, please note that the claim as originally presented further stated that the substantially air impermeable layer is "positioned between two tape side surfaces". In a situation where two tapes are, for example, in a stacked arrangement, a substantially air impermeable layer may be positioned next to one or both tape side surfaces, but it would not be positioned between the two tape side surfaces as specified in the claims of the present invention.